

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 7-17 are pending in this application.

Request to Acknowledge Applicant's Claim for Foreign Priority and Receipt of Applicant's Priority Document:

The present application is a national phase filing of international application no. PCT/GB99/01866 designating the U.S. and claiming priority from application no. (EP) 98304920.6. The Notification of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 and 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 (Form PCT/DO/EO/903) mailed January 9, 2001 expressly acknowledges receipt of the priority document. In light of this earlier acknowledgement that the priority document was properly received by the USPTO via WIPO and the PCT process, the Examiner is respectfully requested to review the application and to acknowledge Applicant's priority claim under 35 U.S.C. §119 and confirm that in fact Applicant's priority document has been properly received.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Since these claims have been canceled, this rejection is deemed moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Davies et al (U.S. '907, hereinafter "Davies")¹ Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to still pending claims 7-17.

¹ Applicant notes that the assignee listed on the front page of Davies is British Telecommunications public limited company, which is also the recorded assignee of the present application.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Applicant submits that Davies fails to disclose each element of the claimed invention. For example, Davies fails to disclose a first searching agent for searching a first advertising board for services based on a user request, the first advertising board advertising services of information brokers, as required by independent claim 7 and its dependents. Similarly, Davies fails to disclose a first searching agent for searching the content service provider advertising board for services based on a user request, the content service provider advertising board advertising services of content service providers, as required by independent claim 16.

The Office Action apparently alleges that col. 4, lines 38-44 of Davies discloses the above claimed features. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Col. 4, lines 38-44 of Davies states the following:

“The Jasper agent 105 next extracts the source text from the page in question, again via the W3 client 115 on W3 (STEP 504). Source text is provided in a “HyperText” format and the Jasper agent 105 first strips out HyperText Markup Language (HTML) tags (STEP 505). The Jasper agent 105 then sends the text to a text summariser such as “ConText” 120 (STEP 506).”

The above-noted portion of Davies fails to disclose searching an advertising board advertising the services of information brokers as explicitly required by independent claim 7. Jasper agent 105 directly extracts source text from a selected webpage and strips out HTML tags. Jasper agent 105 then sends the text to a text summarizer 120 for processing. Jasper agent 105 also extracts a summary of the page text and derives keywords from the source text. Meta-information about the selected webpage is thus generated by Jasper agent 105 and supplied to intelligent page store (IPS) 100. Jasper agent 105 transmits the meta-information

to the IPS to enable it to retrieve those text documents which closely match key words later supplied by the user. This retrieval process is described in connection with Figs. 4 and 6-8 and col. 5, line 44 *et seq.*

IPS 100 is not an advertising board advertising services of information brokers. It is the user that has placed a specific document in the IPS. For example, col. 4, lines 24-26 of Davies states “The user 110 first finds a W3 page of sufficient interest to be stored by the Jasper system in an IPS 100 associated with that user (STEP 501) (emphasis added).” Jasper agent 105 thus parses a page selected and supplied by the user. Jasper agent 105 does not search an advertising board advertising the services of information brokers.

Davies further fails to disclose or even suggest a second searching agent for searching a second advertising board for available services based on the results of the search of the first advertising board and the request from the user, the second advertising board advertising the services of information content suppliers. Similar (but not identical) comments apply to now independent claim 17. The Office Action apparently alleges that col. 4, lines 3-44 discloses this claimed feature. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Indeed, the teachings noted in col. 4, lines 30-44 (overlapping with col. 4, lines 3-44) was relied upon by the Office Action as an alleged teaching of the first advertising board. It is therefore unclear which portion(s) of Davies the Office Action alleges discloses the second advertising board. A single Jasper agent in Davies searches the W3 on behalf of a specific user and while the keywords generated by the Jasper agent may be stored in the IPS 100, the interaction between Jasper agent 105 and IPS 100 fails to disclose or suggest the interaction between agents and boards as claimed.

BUSUIOC

Application No. 09/701,194

July 29, 2004

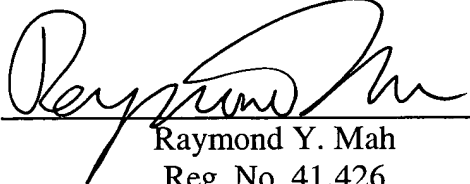
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that still pending claims 7-17 are not anticipated by Davies and respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Raymond Y. Mah
Reg. No. 41,426

RYM:sl
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4044
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

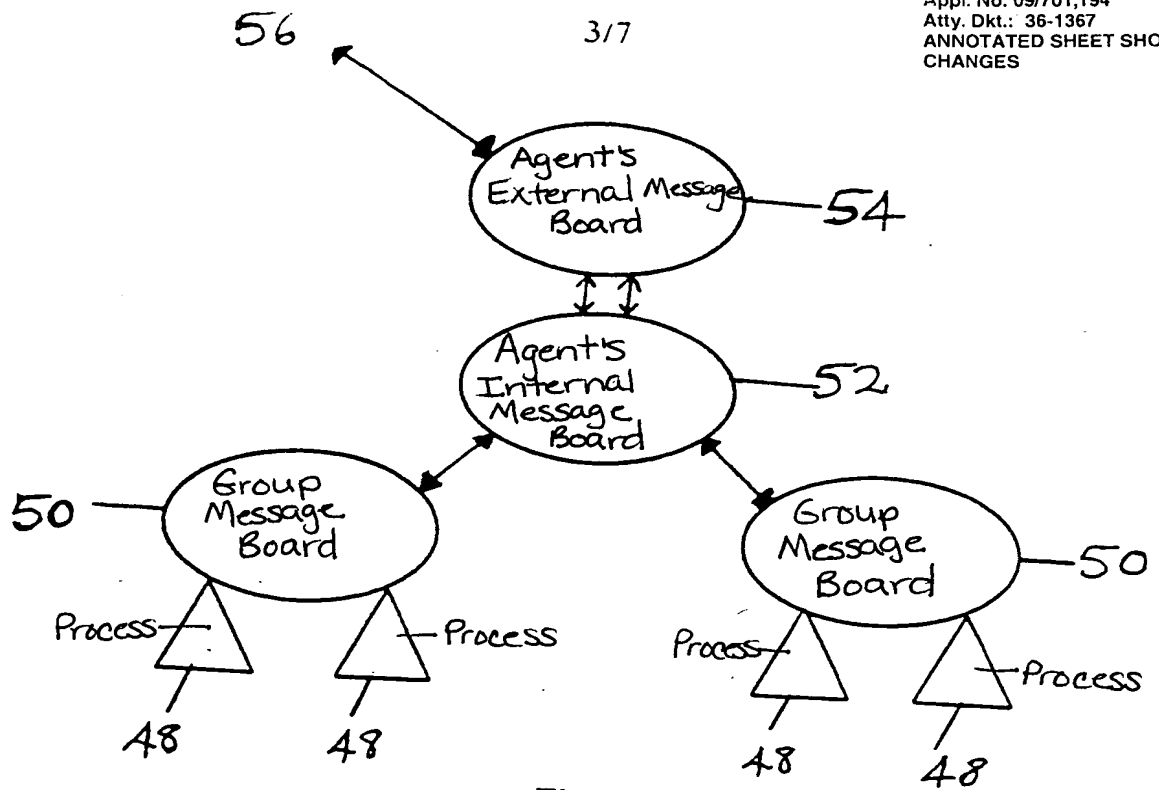


Figure 5

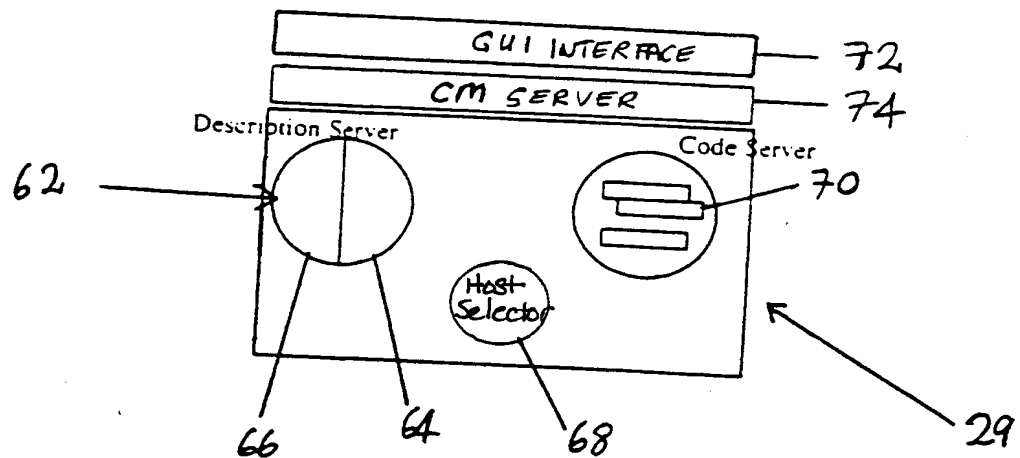


Figure 6